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CLAIMS:

What is claimed is:

- 1 1. A method for chaining a first translation engine and
2 a second translation engine, comprising:
3 receiving, in the first translation engine, a source
4 text in a first natural language;
5 using the first translation engine to translate the
6 source text into an intermediate text in a second natural
7 language and to annotate the intermediate text;
8 receiving, in the second translation engine, the
9 annotated intermediate text; and
10 using the second translation engine to translate the
11 annotated intermediate text into a third natural
12 language.
- 1 2. The method of claim 1, wherein the intermediate text
2 is annotated using a linguistic annotation language.
- 1 3. The method of claim 2, wherein the linguistic
2 annotation language is a markup language.
- 1 4. The method of claim 1, wherein the first translation
2 engine and the second translation engine are chained
3 using a chaining module.
- 1 5. The method of claim 4, wherein the first translation
2 engine and the second translation engine are specified as
3 options.

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1 6. The method of claim 5, wherein the options are
2 defined in a properties file.

1 7. A method for chaining applications, comprising:
2 receiving a request for a service associated with a
3 chaining module;
4 receiving a series of applications from an option
5 corresponding to the chaining module, wherein the series
6 of applications comprises a first translation engine and
7 a second translation engine;
8 executing the first translation engine and the
9 second translation engine in order and passing the output
10 of the first translation engine to the input of the
11 second translation engine, wherein the output of the
12 first translation engine is annotated.

1 8. The method of claim 7, wherein the output of the
2 first translation engine is annotated with a linguistic
3 annotation language.

1 9. The method of claim 8, wherein the linguistic
2 annotation language is a markup language.

1 10. An apparatus for chaining a first translation engine
2 and a second translation engine, comprising:
3 first receipt means for receiving, in the first
4 translation engine, a source text in a first natural
5 language;

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6 first translation means for using the first
7 translation engine to translate the source text into an
8 intermediate text in a second natural language and to
9 annotate the intermediate text;

10 second receipt means for receiving, in the second
11 translation engine, the annotated intermediate text; and

12 second translation means for using the second
13 translation engine to translate the annotated
14 intermediate text into a third natural language.

1 11. The apparatus of claim 10, wherein the intermediate
2 text is annotated using a linguistic annotation language.

1 12. The apparatus of claim 11, wherein the linguistic
2 annotation language is a markup language.

1 13. The apparatus of claim 10, wherein the first
2 translation engine and the second translation engine are
3 chained using a chaining module.

1 14. The apparatus of claim 13, wherein the first
2 translation engine and the second translation engine are
3 specified as options.

1 15. The apparatus of claim 14, wherein the options are
2 defined in a properties file.

1 16. An apparatus for chaining language translation
2 engines, comprising:

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3 a first translation engine, wherein the first
4 translation engine receives a source text in a first
5 natural language, translates the source text into an
6 intermediate text in a second natural language, and
7 inserts annotations into the intermediate text; and
8 a second translation engine, wherein the second
9 translation engine receives the intermediate text and
10 translates the intermediate text into a target text in a
11 third natural language using the annotations.

1 17. The apparatus of claim 16, wherein the annotations
2 are in a linguistic annotation language.

1 18. The apparatus of claim 17, wherein the linguistic
2 annotation language is a markup language.

1 19. The apparatus of claim 16, further comprising a
2 chaining module, wherein the chaining module chains the
3 first translation engine and the second translation
4 engine.

1 20. The apparatus of claim 19, wherein the first
2 translation engine and the second translation engine are
3 specified as options.

1 21. The apparatus of claim 20, wherein the options are
2 defined in a properties file.

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1 22. A computer program product, in a computer readable
2 medium, for chaining language translation engines,
3 comprising:
4 instructions for receiving, in a first translation
5 engine, a source text in a first natural language;
6 instructions for using the first translation engine
7 to translate the source text into an intermediate text in
8 a second natural language and to annotate the
9 intermediate text;
10 instructions for receiving, in a second translation
11 engine, the annotated intermediate text; and
12 instructions for using the second translation engine
13 to translate the annotated intermediate text into a third
14 natural language.

1 23. The computer program product of claim 22, wherein
2 the intermediate text is annotated using a linguistic
3 annotation language.

1 24. A computer program product, in a computer readable
2 medium, for chaining applications, comprising:
3 instructions for receiving a request for a service
4 associated with a chaining module;
5 instructions for receiving a series of applications
6 from an option corresponding to the chaining module,
7 wherein the series of applications comprises a first
8 translation engine and a second translation engine; and
9 instructions for executing the first translation
10 engine and the second translation engine in order and

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11 passing the output of the first translation engine to the
12 input of the second translation engine, wherein the
13 output of the first translation engine is annotated.

1 25. The computer program product of claim 24, wherein
2 the output of the first translation engine is annotated
3 with a linguistic annotation language.